

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph after the title of the invention:

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/117,872 filed April 8, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,652,224. Application No. 10/117,872 is incorporated herein by reference.

On page 6, please replace the first full paragraph with the following:

In ~~figure~~ Figure 1 the nozzle ring is shown in a "closed" position at which the width of the inlet passageway 4 is reduced to a minimum. In this position it will be seen that the ends of the nozzle vanes 10 abut the housing 1 within the recess 7, the reduced chordal length portion 10a of the vanes 10 being entirely received within the recess 7.

On page 6, please replace the second full paragraph with the following:

Figures 2a and 2b show the nozzle ring 5 in mid flow and maximum flow positions respectively. In the mid flow position illustrated in Figure 3a 2a it will be seen that the nozzle ring 5 is withdrawn part way into the cavity 8 so that the face of the nozzle ring 5 is flush with the wall of the housing and the inlet passageway 4 is at its maximum width. To maximize efficiency it is generally understood that the vane height should be equal or greater than the width of the turbine wheel blade tips 11a. Thus, the vanes 10 are configured so that the minimum height of the blade is sufficient to extend across the inlet passageway 4 when the inlet passageway is fully open as shown in Figure 3a 2a. Here only the reduced chordal length portion 10a of the blade 10 is received within the recess 7.

On page 6, please replace the third full paragraph with the following:

The swallowing capacity of the turbine can however be increased by further withdrawing the nozzle ring 5 into the cavity 8 so that the reduced chordal width portion 10a of the vanes is retracted at least partially from the recess 7 to lie within the inlet passageway 4. The total vane area obstructing gas flow through the inlet passageway 4 is thereby reduced. The maximum flow position is illustrated in Figure 2b.

On page 7, please replace the second full paragraph with the following:

As illustrated in Figure 4a, in the illustrated embodiment of the invention the reduced vane height has no effect when the nozzle ring is in the closed position, since the minimum height of the vane is sufficient to extend across the minimum of the inlet aperture 4. However, as the nozzle ring 5 is retracted into the cavity 8, the reduced chordal length portion 20a of each vane 20 is retracted from the recess before the nozzle ring 5 reaches the mid flow position. Thus, in the mid flow position as illustrated by Figure 5b 4b, the reduced chordal length region of 20a of the vane 20 already lies at least partially in the inlet passageway 4. Further withdrawal of nozzle ring 5 into the cavity 8 retracts more of the reduced chordal length portion of the nozzle ring vanes from the recess 7 until in the maximum flow position illustrated in Figure 4c the reduced chordal length portion of the vanes 20 extends across the entire width of the turbine blade tips 11a.